Lecture: India.
Budgeter Y.C.L.
24th Sept 1946.

T/30R/50/3/2.

Intro.

① In this talk want to give class some idea of History of British in India

② Show Poverty Suffering of Indian arising from British Conquest and Potentiae Rules of India.

③ outline Political Problems of Indian People today. and ~~their~~ their organisations which Indian People forged to Solve problems

Finally.

Bring out the Political Significance of Indian C.P. and Heroism of fighting Navy Ship.

East India Company

received first Charter in 1600 and affairs of Area it Covered were Concern of Private Coy.

Company Conducted punitive expeditions against Indian People who resented Rule.

came into Conflict with Portugese and French who had established themselves But unable to compete with Superior military & economic Strength British imperialism.

In Bengal alone the Company and Servants - profited by £6 billion Big Bribes between 1757 - 1766.

* forcibly took goods away from Ryots (peasants) and Paid ¼ price Sold good peasants pay ¼ more Price.

British extracted million of £'s and money built power of British Capitalism.

at time fashionable English Ruling Class Send Sons Uncles Came back - Rich in few years.

When British arrived in India

Village organisation based on Collective responsibility
Land Cultivated Collectively
Paid Single rent to ruler
Govt. of him responsible for irrigation - if Harvest Bad - tax in Kind reduced.

British Came:

Irrigation neglected
tax fixed Cash payment irrespective of good or bad Crop - Local Tax - Collector made owner of Land

Thus meant

establishment of System of ownership of land - tax increase to provide for Govt and Income for Zamindar.

Political effect

Creation of Landlord class interested in maintenance of British Rule - Kind of 5th Column, - with Powerful grip on Indian People.

"I do most confidently maintain that no Civilized Government ever existed on the face of this earth which was more corrupt, more perfidious and more rapacious than the Court of the East India Company from 1765 to 1784."

(Sir George Cornewall Lewis in House of Commons - 1858.)

* As Domestic Industries were ruined by British trade amount of People dependent on Land became greater

This Reason why today India Land of Terrible Poverty. System maintains Backwardness of Agricultural technique.

"Compare Soviet Farmer in Tajikistan with Indian Peasant in N.W. Frontier.

Indian Peasant.

Land - Bullock wooden Plough Illiterate - no fertilizer - dung used fuel - prey of moneylenders & Landlords.

Soviet Collective Farmer.

modern tractor - Literate Well Cultured whole forest of modern Science Technique at disposal - Universities Schools, medical attendance.

Economic Relations between India and Britain can be summarised thus.

First Period

Merchant Class in England Plundered 1000% profits.

Second Period

* Plunder from India helps set up factories - England.
* export Cotton goods - ruin native Cotton industry
* Increase pressure on Land
Britain takes Raw Cotton from India.

Third Period.

Britain export money Capital & Iron Steel & machinery.
Build Railways etc.
But Dev. of heavy Ind. Kept Back in interest of British Competition.

In every Phase English Capitalist gained.
Indian People Crushed Poverty.

Extent of Poverty in towns

Bombay.

Average wage of work 6°-1/6 per Day
Average daily Consumption of
Cereals - meat - Salt - oils etc
1½ lbs per Day.

* Jail Code in Bombay Provides for.
1·84 lbs if on Hard Labour
1·69. " " Light Labour.

* In W.C districts chawls (Slums)
1 well for 3000 people
open Drains Run Down
middle of streets.
Six families one House

* Lack of food - Sanitation
Proper Houses - Poverty
basic Reason why
Average life of Indians 26 years
England 60 years

Death Rate Indian 24 per 1000.
England, 12 per 1000

* Experiment on Rats
diet of Indian - Rat died.
Six weeks.

* On Average worker 3 months wages in debt.

But vast mass of India live on Land.

Peasants in grip of moneylender and Landlord. - Wedding. Part his years in debt - failure of crops - Becomes Land Labourer - increasing -

Leaves Land arrested as Vagrants 1 year imprisonment first offence

* Every now and then misery is punctuated By disaster millions died in recurrent famines

over two years ago famine Pack 2,500 picked off streets of Calcutta. Dogs eating flesh —. Vultures circling overhead.

* In wake of famine Comes Disease

Cholera & Malibar 3,000 Death each malaria Dysentery - no Quinine

* at Camp time 14 Cases deaths in Hotels — Enemy act of God. P.C Joshi predicted famine 2 years before.

India but always poor

Manouchi who became physician to Indian Rulers in 17th Century

" The Prodigious riches transported from Bengal to Europe are proofs of its great fertility. All things are in Abundance here Fruits, Pulse, grain, muslins, cloths of Gold and Silk."

Another Traveller 17th Century

Tavernier " Even in the smallest Villages rice, flour, Butter, milk, beans and other Vegetables, Sugar and other Sweetmeats, can be procured in abundance,

* Interesting to note Indian Civilised Community - Culture Arts Craftsmanship Rare beauty when Britain inhabited by uncivilised tribes

* But really important thing India's vast potential riches

She Possesses abundant Supplies of Coal, Iron, oil, manganese, Lead, Silver and Copper 24% of world water power - only 3% used at present.

Travellers in old days described intricate systems of irrigation - fallen into disuse.

* Estimated that irrigation and instruction in use of fertilisers would increase land outputs 50% in two years

* A group of Indian Capitalists Head by Tata & Birla published plan for Indian Series of 3 five year plans

Double income of Indian People in 15 years - Spend £4,500 billions on Industry - Agriculture - Communications Education, - Health - Housing

worked out financial problems But presupposed Indian people use of own wealth, Britain in debt to India. 1,000 millions Sterling Balances Hoarded money in Country favourable Balance of trade. Credits Help foreign Borrowing

outline National movement India

National Congress

6 million mem ship before war
Non-Communal — Independence
Support of vast majority of Indian People.

Muslim League - Jinnah founded 1906.

mem ship 1,300 in 1924
2 million 1946.
adopted Aim of Pakistan 1940
Establishment of moslem States in N.W. & N.E Indian.
1/4 of India, Sind, Baluchistan, N.W. Frontier province, the Punjab Bengal & Assam, should constitute Pakistan.

Congress refuse recognise demands

Cab. - say only 59% of People in Areas are moslems.
in Nationality, not Question of religion within Area
Baluchis, Tamils, Gurkhas, Sikhs, Dec. Nations
an number of others
Congress Should adopt Principle of self-determination

British motto Divide and Rule

Play on differences.
Should leave India
India Settle own problems

* Causes of difference
Recent riots Bombay & Calcutta
Success of British Policy
errors of Congress & Congress
Leadership.

* People of India United
as never before
Cabinet mission forced
to go India be of
R.I.N. rising

Bombay —
18th Feb. 20,000 naval ratings
grievances — removed Union
Jack - put in Place
Congress League & Red Flag
Strike extended India
heavy.

* Admiral Godfrey
faced across lines of ships
threatened destroy Indian
navy.

People of Bombay came out
greatest strike ever seen,
Independence Slogans;

British Police & Military
indiscriminate firing
2 days 250 people Killed.

Rising failed upper-Class.
Leadership of League & Congress
feared uprising.

But forced Hand of But Govt.
But plan not Independance.
Assembly 11% Suffrage.
Unicam Veto.
British troops 20 years.

The Indian C.P.

Legals 1942 50,000 hum Ship.
All-India T.U.C 850,000 hum Ship
All-India Khaki Sabhas 800,000 "

T|SOP|50|2|B

* approach Study of Book with Some of following Points in Mind

* This is a new and Unique Period in History - look at Broad Sweep of Humanity's forward March
  * even lived Through 4 Social Systems
  * now embarking on 5th - Socialism greatest of all.

* Relics of all Past Systems even today But now Subordinate Amount Socialism

* We are Concerned also with future as well as present & we See Mankinds fight against Fascism Represents forward Sweep over Gulf - Separating us from Socialism

* Some Comrades tend to See Limitations of Struggle - must learn to See over-all rallying of Mankind for Progress.

* 4 Great Points of Discussion emerging from New Situation.

which dealt with in Classes.

(1) Lenin wrote about Imperialism as the "Last Stage of Capitalism"

at that time world had entered 1st Imp. war - and Socialism in Practical form emerged in this Period.

* The Question has Arises what is Position of Imperialism? and Character of Period we are now in

(2) = The Question of the transition to Socialism - its character and character of the State.

(3) The National & Colonial Problem what now Des - Far east - in China India & So on

(4) The Theory of Marxist Party and How it is affected By new Developments taking Place.

* Since Emergence of Italian fascism its nature & Character have ~~become~~ been clear to Communists.

- as fascism Developed Process comes - Saw its Specific features

- Fascism a Phase of Capitalist Decline Spain Prevented Development of Country Path for advance.

* In Germany effect worse ——
Poisoned & Corrupted whole Generation
& Large Sections of People.

Some of main Characteristics are

(1) Represents most reactionary Sec. of Cap.
not Rep of of Cap - or even monopoly.
(2) Subjugates not only Colonial Countries
But also countries achieved Independance

(3) Not only threatens W.C. But all
Sections — except most Reactionary

If Fascism Victorious turned Back
wheel of History — undone Process
Enslaving mankind

Quote bears on Creation of opposition.

Munich Peak of Fascist treachery.

W.C. creates new & more Powerful weapons.
finds expression in Teheran.
where have different nations & Classes
United to Defeat Fascism.

* Conclusion is Drawn = Nations & Classes
Unite when Confronted By Common Danger.

* But fundamental Conclusion
not always Drawn & fully grasped.

Viz. if Conceivable that Different
Classes & Nations Can Combine
to defeat fascism = then
Conceivable Can Combine in Peace.

* There is tendency to compare new situation with Post war — But incomparable.

* Tendency only to see emergence of S.U. failure to see phenomenal change in Balance of forces in favour of world W.C.

There are essential differences

In last war Victory of Dem Imp Group + emergence of Soviet Union. Imp. war

* This war Peoples war ∴ Peoples Peace
  - This Conception of Peoples Peace
  - arise from changed Balance of forces
  - throughout world in favour of W.C.

* This Conception Assumes Basic contradictions of Capitalism have Been effected By developments.

Lenin ① W.C = Cap. Class.
② Colonial masses V.— Imps.
3 Inter Imperialist Struggle

① W.C. = Cap —— W.C. Stronger
② Colonial People V. Imp = Col. People stronger
③ Inter-imperialist Rivalry — Say Between U.S.A. + Britain = modified in the respect that new Balance of forces to advantage World W.C.

* We will understand these Points more fully = if Take note of Variations of Development

* At one Period emergence of Soviet Union — how Stronger than ever.
Same time emergence of Another Imp. America = how Stronger than ever.

* In Europe emergence of new Dems. States
In Last War defeat of Revolution
Build up Cordon Sanitaire = League of Nations

* Whole Character of these States changed
Fascism Destroyed old States machine — on Basis of Struggle for Liberation has type of States Developing — W.C. Leading Forces Communists in Govt.

* Along Side this defeat Fascism weakening of British Imp + on World Scale = Strengthening of Brit. W.C.
= Big change in favour of Progressives.

* These Changes indicate Necessity + Possibility of new Unity in Peace.

* Some People (in Labour) Don't like Unity — others their achievement Impossible.

* If we consider Different classes & Nations held together by Common Interest or Danger with Sec Unity Possible.

* Leading Groups in Leading Imp Powers Learnt terrific lesson and forced modify own Theories

* Realize 2 world wars Taken Place Changes to Disadvantage these Brought further war may end DISASTER for them

* Realise Socialism in S.U. Come to Stay

∴ Possible nations & Classes change attitudes

∴ Possible have International Unity after war — Similarly with classes.

* Take France for example

When Germans entered — Diversity. Dominant Today. emergence of a United Church & Strong C.P.

* Section of Caps Know existence only Possible on Basis of Concessions

fear of Change By W.C. makes for Change of attitude.

France willing Sacrifice Collaborators

Britain may Sacrifice Coal-owners.

Unity not only Possible But necessary

If examine experience we find where W.C. Strong - Greater number allies strength Practice reason why unity necessary.

Collaborateur . Boss Class

Y.C.L. Mtg. 25th Aug 1944.

The Scottish people made
Big contribution Defeat of Fascism
people mobilized in factories
and armed forces. — women
played noble part —
perhaps greatest Contribution
made by Scottish Youth.
all Convinced of need to
defeat fascism + Solidarity
with Soviet Union.

with Election of Lab Govt
people showed Break Long with
Break with people responsible
for unemp. Back Conditions
in factories in Housing and
Education + Health Services.

Since 1900 British power
and wealth been threatened
at different times by rival
powers. no longer strongest
economic and Pol. Power.

Rather than invest profits in modernising mines, Railways and Engineering Ind. preferred to put money abroad let British Ind + Agric. Decline.

1929 world Slump

Grain Stores bursting foodstuffs Argentine wheat for trains Shops Stuffed good things

But people no money to Buy — we produced too much

Cap. Crisis of overprod.

Britain 3,000,000 Unemp.
Scotland proportion 26% greater 1936

Scotland Death Rate 1936

82 per 1000.
England + Wales 67 per 1000.

1936 in Glasgow 100,000 Children examined 93,000 Physically defective.

Scotland Highest Infantile Mortality out of 17 European Countries

Because of unbalanced economy dependence on Heavy Ind. Ship Bldg. Coal Steel etc. Slump hit Scotland Harder.

Industries Concentrated in midlands - Birmingham and London.
Scotland pop. drift South.

The War Brought Some changes new light Industries
Best Scotland had to fight - Storage & production full empl. reduced Infant. Mortality Children taller Better teeth and all round health.

But End of War. 1½ yrs after.
100,000 unempl.
Housing deterioration
Health gains lost.
30,000 unempl. 100,000 Houses.
T.B Malfunction of new Cases Glasgow Death Rate Incr.

Because of this Situation

Certain people Scot hats.
Blame London Lyons.
Seems as Lords attack W.C.
never blame monopolists

Lab Lyons

Nationalisation of Banks mines
Railways Electricity —
Family allowances new Education
Bill Health Bill.

Monopolists

Sir John Reithgow
Nett Shipbldg Securities Ltd.
Closed Yards - unemployed.
Lord Mc Gowan of I.C.I.
Across eyes Shipbldg..

Biggest threat to nations
into London — Washington
Thinks Can buy Honor freedom
dignity of nation Berl Dollard

U.C. Best of Labour and with us.

Communist Claims for Self Govt for Scotland. – Parliament

Maintains

(1) Creation of Under-Sec for Govt.

(2) Under Sec for Labour & Scottish Labour depts.

(3) Scottish National planning Commission

* Plan for 150,000 jobs. (compulsory direction of Govt)
* against Govt 100,000
* plans 500,000 in 5 years.
  Ever models & Black markets.
* Speedy Bld of Schools - reduction of Classes
* Development of Health Service Particularly T.B. schemes

Communists always fought Freedom of nations. Stalin Sth. Indian & All Colonial peoples. Spain.

But also fight Socialism Class aspect of Scottish Self Govt.

Faith = Communism
Sweep away all old & decadent.
regeneration of world.

~~List of Scotland Islands~~
~~on Ch 1~~

Lack worthy of enthusiasm
of youth.